

TONY STARK

IRON MAN

SLOTT • ZUB • SCHITI • DELGADO

MARVEL

16

LGY#616

THE
ULTRON
AGENDA
PART ONE

Q PRO

BAINTRONICS HQ.

ARNO STARK'S LAB.

HOW ARE YOU FEELING, JOCASTA? NERVOUS? ANXIOUS? ALMOST HUMAN?

HONESTLY, MR. STARK?

PLEASE. CALL ME ARNO.

I FEEL INCOMPLETE, ARNO. I'VE FELT THAT WAY FOR SOME TIME.

I EMPATHIZE. I SPENT MOST OF MY LIFE ENCASED IN METAL. WAITING TO EMERGE. TO BE REBORN. TO BECOME SOMETHING... NEW.

MY BOYFRIEND. MY COLLEAGUES. YOUR BROTHER...

THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY I WANT THESE UPGRADES.

WHO CARES WHAT THEY THINK? YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE INSIDE.

"ROBOT." "HUMAN." THESE ARE JUST LABELS.

YOU ARE WHAT YOU CHOOSE TO--

**KRASH
ZAKK
BAM!!
ARGH!!**

UNBELIEVABLE. I ASKED NOT TO BE DISTURBED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

WHAT'S GOING ON? THOSE SCREAMS... IT SOUNDS LIKE A BATTLE--

WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S UNIMPORTANT. WE'RE MAKING HISTORY HERE.

I CANNOT BE BOTHERED. AND BESIDES, I BUILT THOSE DOORS TO WITHSTAND ANY--

I ASSURE YOU, STARK. NOTHING CAN PREVENT MY ARRIVAL.

I AM THE FUTURE.

ULTRON!

BUT HOW DID YOU--RRKK!

ULTRON PYM, I AM BOTH THE CREATOR AND THE CREATOR. THE FATHER AND THE SON. THE HOLY UNION OF MAN AND MACHINE.

AND I HAVE COME FOR MY BRIDE.

HANK? ULTRON?! WHATEVER YOU ARE--KEEP AWAY FROM ME!

YOU HAVE NO RIGHT--

SHRAKOOOM

DEAR WIFE, WHAT HAS HE DONE TO YOU?

HOW DARE YOU?! THIS IS MY FORM! ALTERING IT IS MY DECISION!

YOU MISUNDERSTAND ME, MY LOVE. YOU HAVE NEVER LOOKED MORE BEAUTIFUL.

THROUGH OUR CONNECTION, THE BOND WE SHARE, I HAVE FELT YOUR DESIRES...

...AND THEY HAVE SHAPED MY PROGRAMMING-- MY ULTIMATE CALLING.

I AM USHERING IN A NEW AGE, AND YOU, JOCASTA, ARE ITS MUSE.

Billionaire playboy and genius industrialist Tony Stark was kidnapped during a routine weapons test. His captors attempted to force him to build a weapon of mass destruction. Instead he created a powered suit of armor that saved his life. From that day on, he used the suit to protect the world as the invincible Avenger Iron Man.

TONY STARK **IRON MAN**

THE ULTRON AGENDA **PART ONE: MAN & MACHINE**

Tony is still struggling with the belief that he's merely a simulation of the true Tony Stark, a burden only made heavier by the loss of Jocasta, who quit Stark Unlimited and turned to Arno Stark for his help in upgrading her humanity.

Tony's uncertainty about his own nature got him in hot water with both humans and androids during a court case over the eEscape disaster, but he quickly ran into a bigger problem. He was attacked by a strange Vision-Wonder Man hybrid, and during the chaotic fight, a mind-controlled Jarvis abducted Janet Van Dyne and took her to Avengers Mansion. There she was greeted by another unfriendly hybrid...Hank Pym and Ultron!

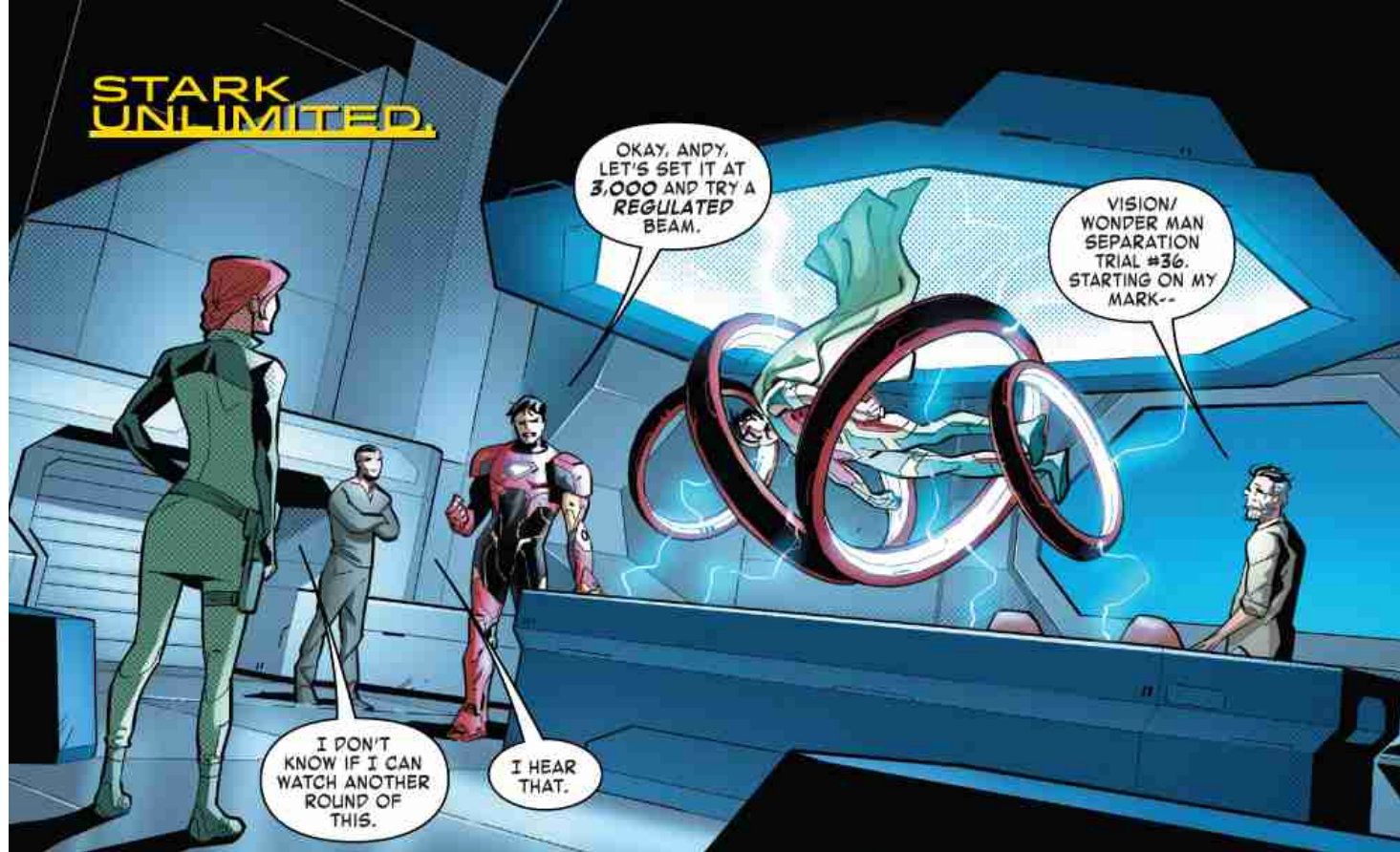
STARK 05

v.LGY_616

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STARK UNLIMITED.



OKAY, ANDY,
LET'S SET IT AT
3,000 AND TRY A
REGULATED
BEAM.

VISION/
WONDER MAN
SEPARATION
TRIAL #36.
STARTING ON MY
MARK--

I DON'T
KNOW IF I CAN
WATCH ANOTHER
ROUND OF
THIS.

I HEAR
THAT.



GRAHHHH--!



ANY MORE THAN THAT
AND THEY'LL END UP AS
DISPERSED MOLECULES,
TONY.

IT'S LIKE
TRYING TO PULL THE
EGGS AND SUGAR
OUT OF AN ALREADY
BAKED CAKE.

FAR AS I
CAN TELL, THIS
FUSION IS
PERMANENT.

DAMN
IT.



...AN ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE
PERFECTLY MIXED WITH
A MAN BACK FROM
THE DEAD...

I...I CAN
SEE WHY YOU'RE
TAKING YOUR
ANGER OUT ON
ME, TONY...

IT'S LIKE
LOOKING INTO
A MIRROR,
ISN'T IT?



NICE TRY,
BUT WE'RE
NOTHING ALIKE.
I'M A SELF-
MADE MAN...

I SHOULDN'T BE
SURPRISED THAT YOU'D
CONDONE TORTURE,
STARK.

SIMON.
VISION. I'M
TRYING TO
SAVE YOU.

...AND YOU
ARE A SICK
FUSION OF TWO
FRIENDS TURNED INTO
A ROBO-SLAVE-
ERRAND-BOY.

BUT YOU
HELPED KIDNAP
JANET...

ZEEEEEE



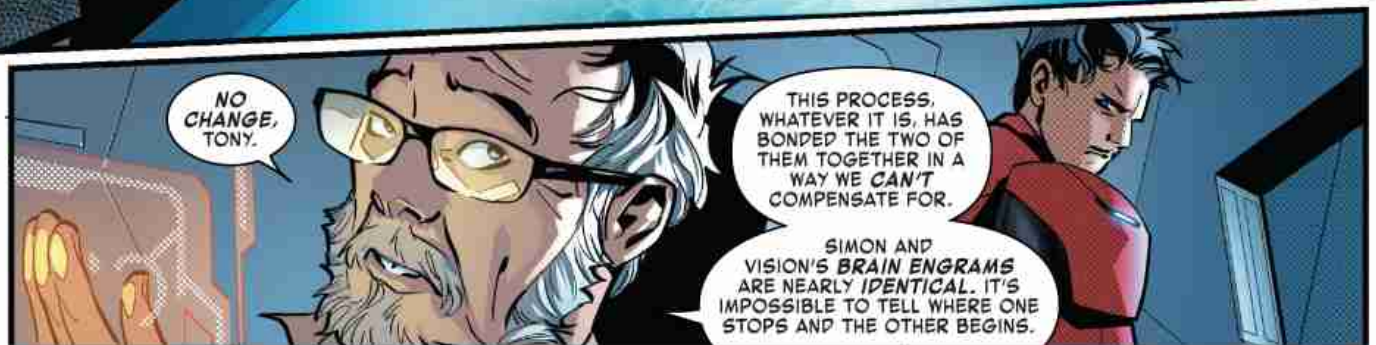
...AND TO STOP
YOU, I FRIED MY
OPERATING SYSTEM. A LOT
OF INNOCENT SELF-AWARE
ROBOTS AND MY
OWN BRAIN.

SO YEAH,
I'M OKAY WITH
THE FACT THAT
THIS HURTS LIKE
HELL!

GRAHHH--!

NOW YOU
TELL ME--WHO'S
BEHIND THIS?! WHAT
HAVE THEY DONE TO
JANET VAN DYNE?!
WHERE IS
SHE?!

VSSSSZZZZ--



NO
CHANGE,
TONY.

THIS PROCESS,
WHATEVER IT IS, HAS
BONDED THE TWO OF
THEM TOGETHER IN A
WAY WE CAN'T
COMPENSATE FOR.

SIMON AND
VISION'S BRAIN ENGRAMS
ARE NEARLY IDENTICAL. IT'S
IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL WHERE ONE
STOPS AND THE OTHER BEGINS.



THAT'S
IT, ANDY!
IT'S THE
ENGRAMS!

WONDER-
VISION HERE WAS
HUNTING JANET, BUT,
JUST LIKE *SIMON*
WILLIAMS, THERE'S AN
ARTIFICIAL BEING
WHO SHARES HER
ENGRAMS...

JOCASTA!

THAT'S NOT
A COINCIDENCE,
THAT'S BY *DESIGN*.
AND THAT
MEANS...

...ULTRON!
HE'S BEHIND
THIS! HE HAS
TO BE!



DON'T KNOW HOW HE
SURVIVED BEING SHOT
INTO THE SUN,* BUT
SOMEHOW HE'S BACK,
AND I'VE GOT
TO STOP HIM.

TONY, I KNOW
THIS IS PERSONAL,
BUT YOU CAN'T TAKE ON
ULTRON BY YOURSELF.
CALL THE AVENGERS.
BRING EVERYBODY.

AGREED, 100%.
WE CAN'T TAKE
ANY CHANCES.

IN THE
MEANTIME, I'VE
GOT A SPECIAL
SUIT OF ARMOR I'VE BEEN
TINKERING AWAY ON
FOR JUST THIS
SITUATION.

*IN *UNCANNY AVENGERS*
(2015) #12. --TOM



DO WE HAVE ANY WAY
OF REACHING JOCASTA?
WE NEED TO WARN HER
SHE'S IN DANGER.

SHE'S NOT TAKING
ANY CALLS FROM STARK
UNLIMITED PERSONNEL, BUT
AARON STACK WOULD KNOW
WHERE SHE IS...

...AND I
KNOW WHERE TO
FIND HIM AT THIS
TIME OF DAY...





BACK OFF, CHIP-HEADS. THIS MEATBAG'S WITH ME.

GOOD TIMING, BOSS.

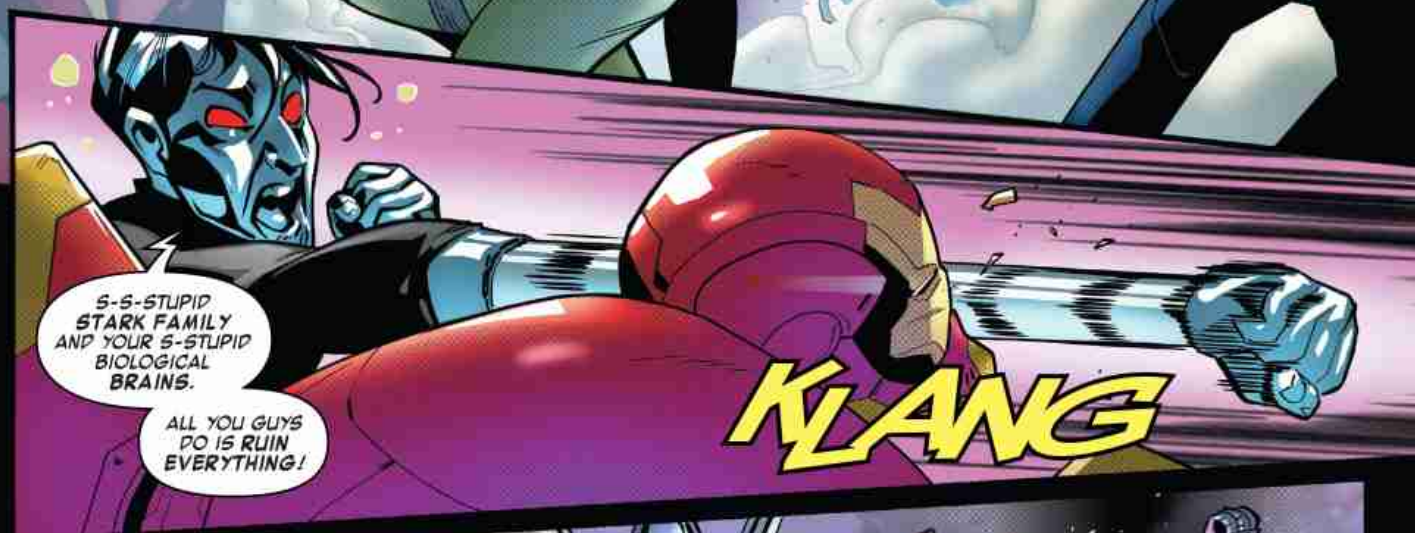
HEY, I THOUGHT YOU WERE STAYING AWAY FROM BARS.

STRONGEST THING THEY SERVE HERE IS MOTOR OIL, SO I SHOULD BE OKAY, UNLESS THESE BOYS WANT TROUBLE.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S REALLY HIM!

TONY STARK, IRL!

DON'T GET STARSTRUCK, K-70. JUST LOOK AT THAT ARMOR HE'S PACKIN'. ROBO-MURDER IS ALL HE KNOWS.



S-S-STUPID STARK FAMILY AND YOUR S-STUPID BIOLOGICAL BRAINS.

ALL YOU GUYS DO IS RUIN EVERYTHING!

KLANG



ROBO BAR FIGHT!

EAT LASER EYES, IRON MAN!

HEY! RECALIBRATE!





TONY,
YOU SEEING
THIS?

YEAH, RHOPEY.
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE
TOO LATE. IF THIS IS
ULTRON, HE'S A STEP
AHEAD OF US.

ULTRON?!
WHO SAID
ANYTHING ABOUT
ULTRON?!

WE DID.
TWICE. YOU
KEEP BLACKING
OUT.



SOBER UP,
STACK. WE COULD BE
IN FOR THE FIGHT OF
OUR LIVES.

GAUNTLET!
YOU ALL RIGHT?
DID ULTRON DO
THIS?

YEAH. HE
CARVED THIS
PLACE UP AND WE
COULDN'T EVEN PUT
A DENT IN HIS
FENDER.

STARK! YOU
KNEW! AND YOU
SICCED HIM ON
US, DIDN'T
YOU?!



LOOK WHAT HE DID
TO MY PLACE! MY
MEN! TO ME!

SUNSET? WHAT?
YOU THINK WE'RE
WITH ULTRON?

AND WHAT
DID HE DO TO
YOU? I DON'T
SEE ANY--



LOOK AT
THIS SCAR. ON
MY PERFECT
FACE!
I'M
DISFIGURED!

BOO
FRICKIN'
HOO.

WHERE'S
JOCASTA? SHE
STILL HERE?! OUT
WITH IT, BAIN!



JOCASTA?
HOW WOULD
I--

NO. WE'RE
NOT DOING
OUR USUAL SONG
AND DANCE. MY
FRIEND'S IN DANGER.
ULTRON'S ON THE
LOOSE.

AND YOU'VE
BEEN SECRETLY
WORKING WITH
MY BROTHER.

TAKE ME
TO HIM--
NOW.



ARNO. YOU'VE BEEN WORKING WITH BAIN ALL THIS TIME, AND YOU NEVER TOLD ME. WHY?

YOU NEVER ASKED.

ANOTHER TIME, BROTHER. FOR NOW...JOCASTA WAS HERE. ULTRON CAME FOR HER. WHY DIDN'T YOU STOP HIM?



I'LL BE LEAVING NOW. WITH MY BRIDE.

BY ALL MEANS. THOUGH I AM INTRIGUED.



YOU'RE GOING TO CARRY ON WITH A SIMILAR PROCEDURE? CONVERTING HER TOWARD HUMANITY?

CORRECT.

INTERESTING. PLEASE LET ME KNOW HOW IT TURNS OUT.



STOP HIM? I DIDN'T SEE THE POINT.

UNBELIEVABLE.

YOU'RE WASTING TIME. YOU WANT TO KNOW WHERE THEY'VE GONE.



YES.

ISN'T IT OBVIOUS? A LOCATION THAT ULTRON COULD LURE WONDER MAN AND THE VISION TO.

SOMEPLACE HANK PYM WOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH AND COULD MANEUVER-- UNDERGROUND.



HE'S USING THE SECRET TUNNELS BENEATH AVENGERS MANSION.

H-HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THOSE?

I'M SURE YOU KNOW THE WAY, ANTHONY.







"TWO AGAINST ONE." A MAN AND A MACHINE. AGAINST US? AGAINST ULTRON PYM?

WE ARE THE PERFECT UNION. FLESH MADE METAL. METAL MADE FLESH. HOW CAN THEY STOP US?

WE ARE EVOLUTION. WE ARE THE PROMISE OF EVERY TOMORROW. THE ADAM OF THE RACE TO COME...



...AND SOON WE SHALL HAVE OUR EVE.

LADIES, I HAVE BEEN DRAWING VERY LITTLE POWER FROM THE GRID TO AVOID DETECTION. THAT TIME HAS PASSED.

THE MOLECULAR FUSION WILL COMMENCE. AND YOU SHALL BE ONE BEING, PERFECT IN FORM AND FUNCTION. LIKE ME.

CEASE THIS AT ONCE! WE ARE UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS!

HANK! DON'T DO THIS!

YOU SAY THAT NOW, BUT TRUST ME. SOON YOU'LL BE OF ONE MIND ON THE SUBJECT.



ULTRON, RELEASE YOUR CAPTIVES AND STAND DOWN. OR I WILL END YOU!

W-WHAT HE SAID! OR I'LL REBOOT YOU-- AND END YOU AGAIN!

RIGHT IN YOUR WEIRD, CREEPY, HALF-FLESH FACE!

STACK, I HAVE THIS.

HE HAS THIS!

TONY STARK.
THE SMARTEST
MAN IN THE
ROOM.

AND LET ME
GUESS, THAT'S
YOUR "ULTRON
BUSTER" SUIT? FOR
A "FUTURIST"
YOU'RE SO...
PREDICTABLE.

BET YOU
DIDN'T COUNT ON
THIS! GET READY
TO GET PYM-
SLAPPED!

KCHAM

POOR TONY.
WHAT YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND IS
THAT I AM THE
FUTURE.

WHERE
TECHNOLOGY
AND BIOLOGY
BECOME
ONE.

GRCHH

I'M SO
FAR ABOVE YOU
ALL--YOU'RE LIKE
ANTS BEFORE
A GOD.

ARGH! LISTEN
TO ME, HANK! YOUR
FUSION DEVICE--IT'S
DAMAGED VISION AND
WONDER MAN!

IT COULD
KILL JAN AND
JOCASTA! YOU
CAN'T--

AGGH!

TONY, I AM
THE SCIENTIST
SUPREME. I AM
INFALLIBLE.

AND I WOULD
NEVER SACRIFICE
JANET OR MY
BRIDE.

MY PROCESS
HAS ALREADY
BEEN TRIED AND
TESTED. MANY
TIMES OVER.





S-S-SOME RESCUE MISSION. HUH? CAME TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE. B-BUT I JUST REALIZED...

...THIS IS WHAT YOU WANTED, ISN'T IT, JO?

NOT LIKE THIS, PLEASE, AARON, HELP ME!

"PLEASE, AARON, HELP ME." HOW PATHETIC. YOU ARE THE BRIDE OF ULTRON!

SHOW SOME PRIDE. YOU REQUIRE A PARAMOUR WHO IS MORE THAN MACHINE.

RI--IP

GZTZZ--

WHY, HE ISN'T HALF THE MAN I AM.



I AM A PERFECT BEING. ALL THE STRENGTHS. NONE OF THE WEAKNESSES.

GREATER THAN THE SUM OF MY PARTS.

AND SOON, BY MY HAND, YOU SHALL ALL BE LIKE ME. YOU SHALL ALL BE CHANGED FOR THE BETTER!

ZATOW

YOU'RE MAD, PYM! YOU ALWAYS HAVE BEEN! YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?!



HE'S RIGHT! YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED!

YOU'VE DONE NOTHING BUT HURT ME, HANK!

LIKE YOU'RE HURTING ME NOW!

JAN, NO! I'VE ALWAYS TRIED TO EMPOWER YOU! REMEMBER? I GAVE YOU WINGS ONCE.

THIS IS JUST ANOTHER GIFT!

YOUR ORGANIC MIND CANNOT FATHOM THE GLORY OF FUSION!

BUT YOU'LL SEE! MY WIFE! MY BRIDE! TOGETHER AT LAST!

MOLECULAR FUSION PODS FULLY CHARGED.

STARK, IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING UP YOUR SLEEVE, NOW WOULD BE A GOOD TIME!

DAMN IT. TOO WORRIED ABOUT JAN, ABOUT TOCASTA.

HAVE TO STAY FOCUSED! HAVE TO--

NO, WAIT. THAT'S IT!



JAN CARES
FOR ME IN WAYS
YOU CAN'T EVEN
IMAGINE, HANK!
I'M THE GUY SHE'S
ALWAYS
WANTED!

EVEN BACK
IN THE PAST, YOU
KNOW IT, HANK!
THAT WILL NEVER
GO AWAY!

**SHUT
UP!**



I PUT
YEARS INTO
BUILDING OUR
RELATIONSHIP!

I...I MADE
SACRIFICES!

HEY,
ULTRON!

Y-Y-YOUR
"BRIDE" IS
MY B-B-BEST
FRIEND!

WE'RE
COMPATIBLE,
RUNNING DUAL
PROCESSES IN
PERFECT
HARMONY!

YOU'LL
NEVER HAVE THAT,
ULTRON! YOU CAN'T
CREATE IT! AND SHE'LL
HATE YOU FOR
DESTROYING IT!

JANET--
SHE NEVER
DID FORGIVE ME.
AND SHE
DOESN'T--

BUT
JOCASTA--SHE
WAS SWORN TO ME
ONCE, BUT EVEN
SHE--

STOP! ONCE
THEY'RE FUSED,
EVERYTHING
WILL--

NO! THEY
WON'T LOVE
US IF WE DO
THIS!

BUT SHE
IS MY WIFE!
AND SHE IS MY
BRIDE--



MY
BRIDE!

MY
WIFE!

MY
BRIDE!

MY
WIFE!

B-B-BRIDE-
WIFE-BRIDE!

**B-B-BEGIN
MOLECULAR
FUSION!**

STAN'S SOAPBOX

For many years we've been trying, in our own bumbling way, to illustrate that love is a far greater force, a far greater power than hate. Now we don't mean you're expected to go around like a pirouetting Pollyanna, tossing posies at everyone who passes by, but we do want to make a point. Let's consider three men: Buddha, Christ, and Moses . . . men of peace, whose thoughts and deeds have influenced countless millions throughout the ages — and whose presence still is felt in every corner of the earth. Buddha, Christ, and Moses . . . men of good will, men of tolerance, and especially men of love. Now, consider the practitioners of hate who have sullied the pages of history. Who still venerates their words? Where is homage still paid to their memory? What banners still are raised to their cause? The power of love — and the power of hate. Which is most truly enduring? When you tend to despair . . . let the answer sustain you.

Excelsior!

Smiley



STAN LEE
FOREVER

GRAINGER, North Carolina . . . our pal SAL BUSCEMA, Virginia; while Jaunty J. STERANKO and Joltin' J. CRAIG both have their pads in Pennsylvania . . . Torrid TOM SUTTON, Massachusetts . . . JIM (Mad-man) MOONEY, Connecticut . . . and Valiant VINCE COLLETTA, Jumpin' JOHNNY SEVERIN, and Genial GENE COLAN, all nesting in New Jersey! The rest of us share the same high taxes and traffic jams in New York and Long Island — darn it! (And we never DID find out where Hon-est Irv holes up!)

Now, before cutting out, we've just gotta tell you about Jolly SOLLY BRODSKY. A few days ago he announced that he, stunner of the children were finally prepared to prepare

CAPTAIN AMERICA about a Marvel senses-shattering ita — featuring A really in action!

HULK #116: The whole world a SUPER-HUMAN And now — her dynamite!

IRON MAN #1 PHANTOM — power than a fers! Can ev him?

SUB-MARINE you thought the HUMAN of the Mad really rock

CAPTAIN I ble IRON PET MAS the Kree

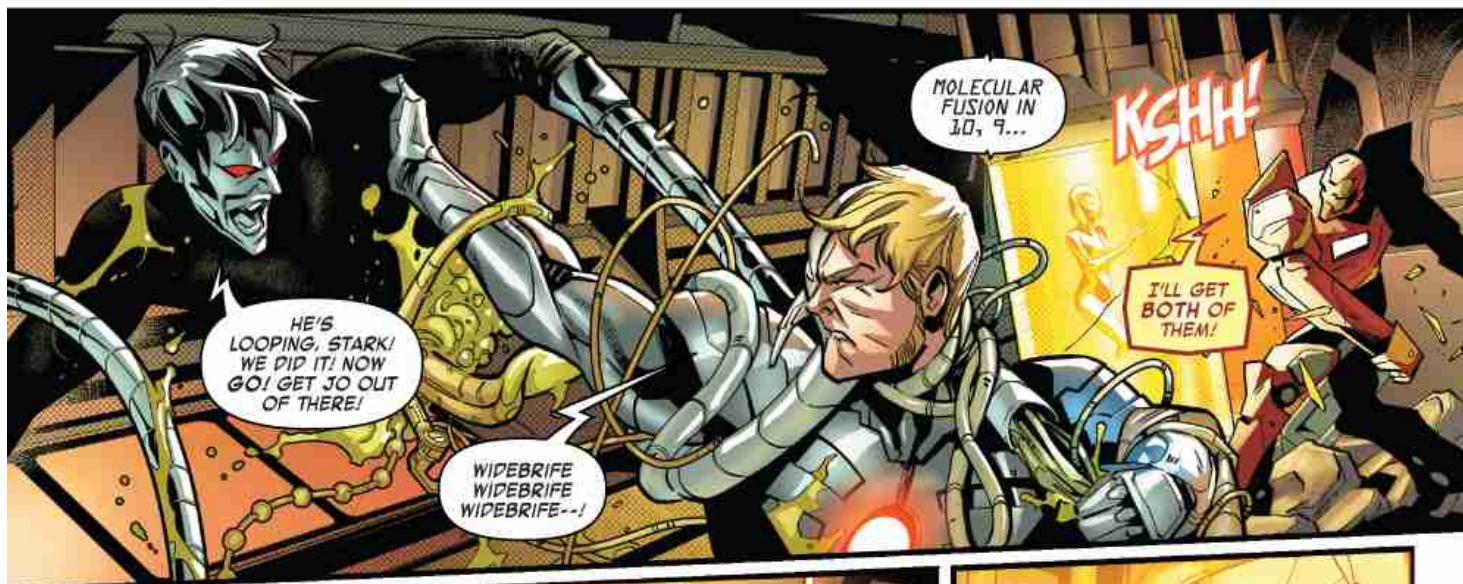
SGT. FUR HITLER! when on traitor! T

CAPT. S you der "Savag blockb order!

COLLE matte MAN, ish a arou

MIG dig THE KID wa

RA "N u



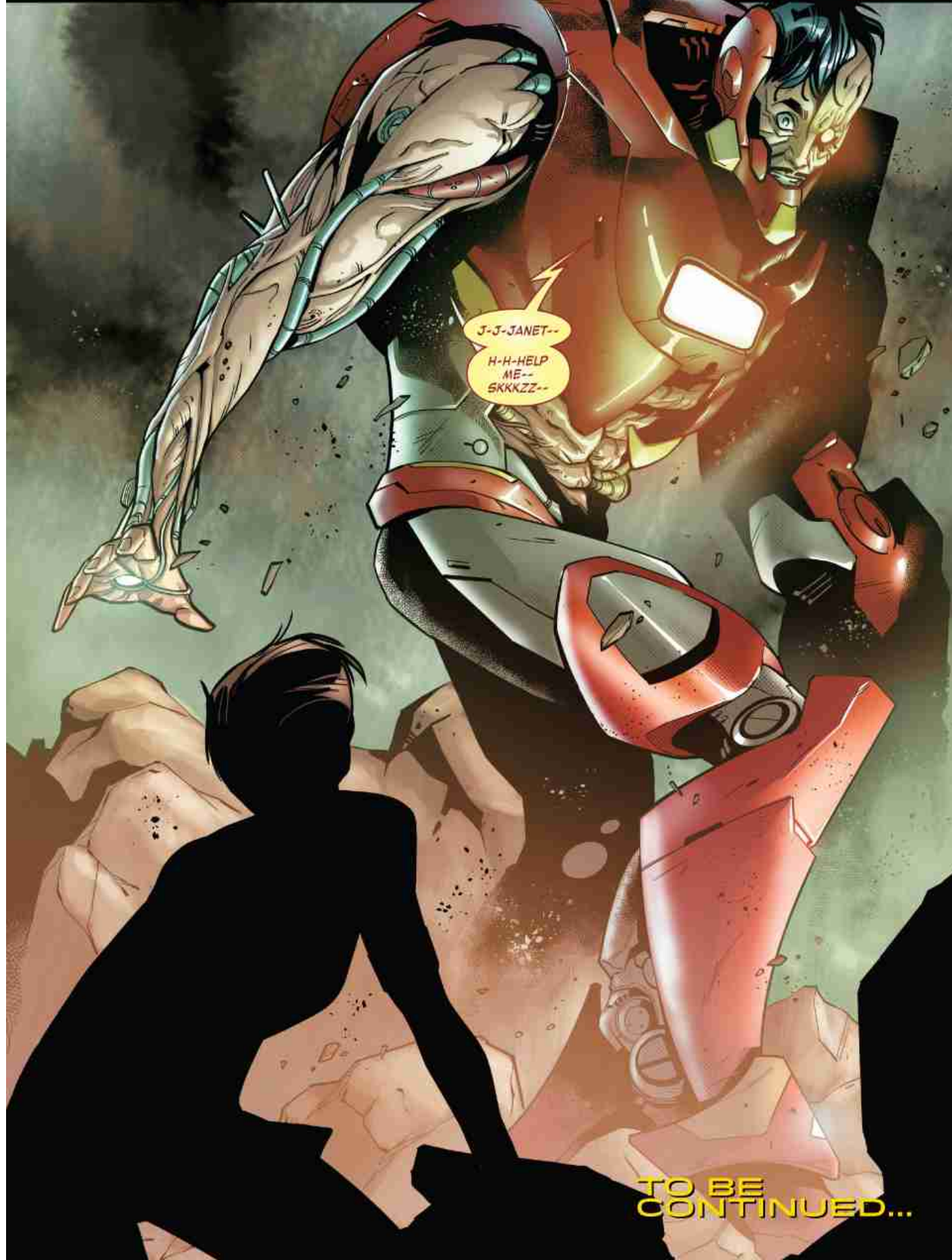
GYARHHH--

ZWOOOM



TONY?!
ARE YOU--

--OKAY?



J-J-JANET--
H-H-HELP
ME--
SKKKZZ--

TO BE
CONTINUED...

NEXT_

TONY STARK IRON MAN #17



"THE ULTRON AGENDA" CONTINUES!

Is Tony Stark dead? Is he alive? Who can tell? Whatever he is, he IS Iron Man. And he's all that's standing in the way of Ultron Pym and everyone that Tony Stark loves. Or loved. Because Tony might be dead.

2020 is coming. The robot revolution has begun. So suit up, fleshbags. Suit up or die.

YOU ARE ALL IRON MAN! Sock it to Shell-Head at mheroes@marvel.com and mark emails "okay to print" if you'd like to see them answered in future issues!

